

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GODSTONE

(Public Health Department)



ANNUAL REPORT

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

COUNCIL OFFICES

OXTED, SURREY

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THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GODSTONE.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1958

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District of Godstone in the year 1958. The Report is drawn up generally in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, as indicated in Circular 22/58, and in the main follows the same arrangement as earlier issues in the same series.

There was no cause of sickness or invalidity that was specially noteworthy in the Rural District in the year under review. The rates of prevalence of the commoner infectious diseases were, on the whole, very much lower than usual. This was markedly so as regards whooping cough and poliomyelitis, though the extent to which this may be directly due to protective inoculation can only be definitely assessed by study and observation of the epidemiological behaviour of both diseases over a long period. There was also a very sharp decline in the case rate for tuberculosis of the lungs to the lowest level observed in the past twenty-five years.

Attention is again drawn to the satisfactory rates of acceptance of protective inoculation against the range of diseases for which effective immunising agents are now available. The most noteworthy advance in this field during the year was the extension of the age groups eligible for vaccination against poliomyelitis and the increased supplies of vaccine for the purpose. Concentration on this aspect of the immunisation programme inevitably resulted in some

slight reduction in the numbers immunised against diphtheria and whooping cough, but arrears in these respects are now being rapidly overtaken.

In most respects the various statistical rates for the year compare favourably with those previously recorded in the Rural District and with those for the country as a whole. The birth rate of 16.9 is the highest for ten years and, when adjusted, is appreciably above that for England and Wales. The rate of mortality amongst new-born infants (18.0 per 1,000 live births) and the proportion registered as stillborn (19.3 per 1,000 total births) are well below the average for the Rural District and are appreciably lower than the corresponding national rates, which were 22.0 and 21.4 respectively, in the same period. The general death rate of 12.24 very slightly exceeds the annual average rate for the past ten years, but is not unduly high. With regard to the mortality from specified causes, attention is drawn to the very sharp and alarming rise in the number of males dying from cancer of the lung.

The care and, more particularly, the domiciliary care of the aged and incapacitated who are unable to give proper attention to themselves or their immediate surroundings is steadily assuming greater importance as an urgent and difficult social problem. It was not found necessary to exercise the powers of the Council under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948 to secure the removal of any such persons to hospital or other suitable premises, though several cases in which it appeared that such action should be considered were fully investigated. With the assistance available through the official and voluntary domiciliary services it was possible, in every

instance, to effect such improvement in the standard of personal care and in the sanitary condition of the premises that action for compulsory removal would not have been justified. In the interests of the persons concerned it is undoubtedly preferable, except in cases of real urgency, to accept a lower standard of environmental hygiene than cause the distress that compulsory removal must inevitably involve.

While it would scarcely be possible to report exhaustively or in detail on the various activities of the Public Health Department, brief reference is made to further progress during the year in implementing the Council's five-year programme for the clearance of unfit houses and the very considerable amount of time devoted to housing inspections for other purposes. Reference is also made to other routine matters, including measures to ensure a satisfactory standard of purity and quality of water, milk and food supplies, sanitary inspection, duties under the Factories Acts, supervision of caravan and camping sites, scavenging and cleansing, disinfection and disinfection, and other matters having a direct bearing on environmental hygiene and the prevention of disease and ill-health. The generally satisfactory health record for the year would suggest that these and other activities of the Public Health Department are, in part at least, achieving the results expected of them.

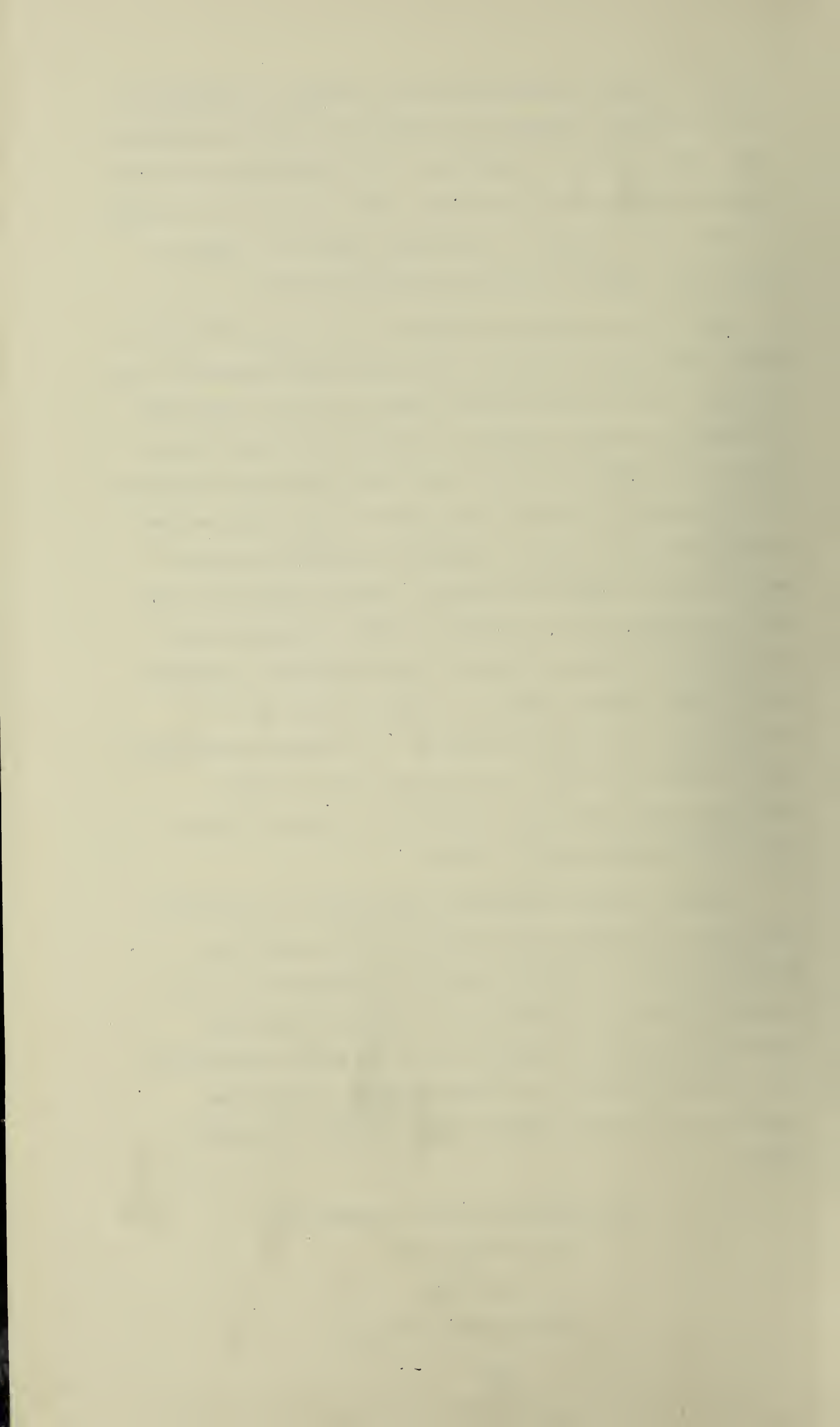
I again gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for the support and consideration they have kindly extended to me throughout the year. My sincere thanks are due also to Mr. A.H. Sowell, Chief Public Health Inspector, and his assistants and to the medical practitioners in the district for their very willing assistance and close co-operation in all measures directed to the promotion of the public health.

I am, Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T.H. BINGHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.



SECTION I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (Land and Inland Water) in acres	52,507
Population at Census, 1951	32,823
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population at Mid-year, 1958	35,930
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1958, according to the Rate Books	11,584
Rateable Value (1958)	£546,440
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£2,256

TABLE I

The area and population at the 1951 Census of the various Parishes comprising the Rural District, and the rateable value of each Parish at the end of 1958, are as follows:-

PARISHES	AREA IN ACRES	RATEABLE VALUE AT END OF 1958	CENSUS POPULATION OF PARISHES - 1951	ESTIMATED POPULATION MID-YEAR, 1958
Bitchingley	5,813	£40,279	3,164	3,211
Burston	4,750	44,102	2,961	3,271
Chelsham	2,703	15,313	1,390	1,228
Crowhurst	2,119	3,752	330	321
Felbridge	2,080	22,387	— [£]	1,494
Godstone	4,464	61,502	5,033	4,468
Horne	3,603	9,076	1,102	808
Limpfield	4,673	70,037	3,499	3,449
Lingfield	9,239	83,405	5,951	6,520
Nutfield	3,390	41,150	2,043	2,050
Oxted	3,658	124,247	5,420	6,957
Tandridge	2,722	8,421	802	800
Tatsfield	1,304	15,222	1,009	1,225
Titsey	1,989	5,533	119	128
(S.E. Gas and Electricity Board)	—	2,014	—	—
<u>TOTALS</u>	52,507	£546,440	32,823	35,930

[£] Constituted as a separate Parish on 1st April, 1953.

TABLE II

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births:-

Legitimate	..	..	Males	290	Females	296	Total	586
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	8	Females	14	Total	22

Birth Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.9
do 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.3
do for the five years 1953 to 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.4

Still Births

Legitimate	..	..	Males	4	Females	8	Total	12
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	-	Females	-	Total	-

Rate per 1,000 total births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19.3
do. do. 1957	20.2

Total Live and Still Births

Males	302	Females	318	Total	620
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Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births	3.6
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Infant Mortality:-

Deaths of infants under the age of one year:-

Legitimate	Males	7	Females	4	Total	11
Illegitimate	..	..	..	Males	-	Females	-	Total	-

Infant Death Rates:-

All infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	18.0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	18.7
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	..	..	..	..	-

Deaths of infants under the age of 4 weeks

Legitimate	..	..	..	Males	6	Females	3	Total	9
Illegitimate	Males	-	Females	-	Total	-

Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	14.8
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Maternal Mortality:-

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	Nil

Deaths (nett):-

Males	..	196	Females	..	244	Total	440
Do. 1957:-	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Males	..	206	Females	..	237	Total	443

Death Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.2
Do. 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.5
Do. for the five years 1953 to 1957	12.7

Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions	60.2
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Deaths from:-

Cancer (all ages)	80
Measles (all ages)	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Gastro-enteritis (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

The population of the Godstone Rural District was estimated by the Registrar General to be 35,930 at mid-year, 1958. This represents a population increment of 490, or 1.4 per cent, in the preceding twelve months, of which 168 is attributable to natural increase (i.e. the number by which the live births outnumbered the total deaths), and 322 to migration into the area. The population gain by natural increase is much greater than usual because of the rise in the birth rate and fall in the death rate.

The recorded birth rate of 16.9 per 1,000 population is the highest for the past ten years and falls very little below the unusually high rates observed in the immediate post-war years. When adjusted in the prescribed manner for the purpose of comparison the recorded death rate is advanced to 18.2, which compares with 16.4 for the country as a whole. The increase in the birth rate was accompanied by slightly higher mortality amongst new-born infants, though a proportionately smaller number were registered as stillborn.

The general death rate of 12.9, though lower than in 1957, is somewhat above the average annual rate for the preceding ten years. This is not unexpected, as the age-group constitution of the population of the Rural District is not conducive to a low death rate. When adjusted for comparison, the crude or recorded rate is reduced to 9.6, which compares with a national death rate of 11.7 in the same period.

The number of deaths assigned to specified causes are set out in Table III. The most striking feature is the sharp increase in the number of males dying from cancer of the lung, which has assumed increasing prominence in mortality statistics in recent

years. There were eighteen such deaths in 1958, as compared with eight in 1957 and an average of nine per annum in the preceding five years. There was no significant increase in the number of deaths from cancer and malignant disease of other organs. Non-tuberculous respiratory diseases also made rather more than their usual contribution to the general death rate, the increase in this case also being more marked amongst males.

Relatively fewer deaths were attributed to diseases of the heart and circulation, which accounted for more than one-half of the total deaths from all causes. While most of these were of the terminal or degenerative type occurring in association with senility, it is of interest to note that there was an appreciable reduction in the number of deaths from coronary disease, angina, hypertension and other cardiac conditions which are believed to be induced by nervous stress.

Other noteworthy points in the summary of deaths are the very low mortality from acute infectious illness, including influenza, and the fall in the number of deaths attributed to all forms of tuberculosis, gastric and duodenal ulceration, and injuries sustained in motor vehicle accidents.

The numbers of deaths ascribed to other specified and defined causes do not differ greatly from those recorded in the Rural District in recent years and do not indicate unusual or excessive mortality from any particular cause or significant association with occupation or environment.

TABLE III
CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE GODSTONE RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1958.

	M.	F.	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	2	2
2. Tuberculosis, other forms	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1	2
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	7	8
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	18	3	21
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	5	5
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	3	3
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	15	25	40
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	3	-	3
16. Diabetes	-	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	26	40	66
18. Coronary disease, angina	33	28	61
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	5	9
20. Other heart disease	24	37	61
21. Other circulatory disease	15	23	38
22. Influenza	2	-	2
23. Pneumonia	15	23	38
24. Bronchitis	14	2	16
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	1	4
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	2	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-	3
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	3	3	6
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	27	36
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
34. All other accidents	4	5	9
35. Suicide	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
Totals	196	244	440

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND

OTHER DISEASES

Provision of Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

The provision of hospital accommodation for the isolation and treatment of cases of infectious disease is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board. Patients from the Godstone Rural District are admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Bletchingley, if the required accommodation and facilities are available; otherwise, they are sent to isolation hospitals in other parts of the Hospital Region. The disposal to different hospitals of the cases notified during the year was as follows:-

Godstone Infectious Diseases Hospital	35 cases
Queen Mary's Hospital for Children, Carshalton	77 "
Burgess Hill Hospital, Sussex	3 "
Waddon Hospital, Croydon	2 "
Hospital for Tropical Diseases, London	1 case
Western Fever Hospital, Fulham	1 "
Westminster Hospital, London	1 "
Mayday Hospital, Croydon	1 "
Cuddington Hospital, Banstead	1 "

Uncomplicated cases of the commoner infections, such as measles, mumps and whooping cough, are not usually accepted, unless recommended by the Medical Officer of Health on the grounds that the patient cannot be satisfactorily isolated and treated at home; several such cases were admitted to hospital during the year.

There was no complaint of difficulty or delay in securing the admission of infectious patients to hospital; neither was there complaint of dissatisfaction with the arrangements for ambulance transport, nor with the quality of the hospital services given.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Table IV shows the numbers of the various notifiable infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, recorded in the area during the calendar year, classified according to the age of the patient, together with the numbers of cases removed to hospital and the total deaths from each disease.

TABLE IV.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

NOTIFIED IN THE GODSTONE RURAL DISTRICT

DURING THE YEAR 1958

	CASES NOTIFIED IN AGE PERIODS												Totals	Total cases removed to hospital	Total Deaths
	Under 1 Year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over			
Scarlet Fever	-	-	2	1	2	7	2	3	1	-	-	-	18	12	-
Whooping Cough	1	2	3	2	3	11	1	-	-	-	-	-	23	-	-
Measles	1	4	7	5	4	15	1	1	-	-	-	-	38	1	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	1	6	1	38 [±]
Dysentery	1	-	1	-	1	42	49	7	1	6	1	-	109	100	-
Acute Poliomyelitis															
(a) Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	2	-
(b) Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	2	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-
Puerperal Typhemia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Totals	3	6	13	8	10	77	53	12	5	7	5	1	200	119	38
Totals 1957	12	23	38	45	40	258	36	4	11	3	9	14	493	32	32

± All Forms.

The reported cases of scarlet fever represent a very low rate of prevalence and were clinically of the mild type that has been usual in recent years. Home isolation was permitted and encouraged wherever the arrangements for the purpose were reasonably satisfactory and no restriction was imposed on immediate contacts, with the exception of those engaged in the preparation or handling of food, or in other occupations which might involve undue risk of spread of infection.

The number of cases of whooping cough was one of the smallest reported in the Godstone Rural District since the disease became officially notifiable in 1941. To what extent the decline in prevalence in this instance may be directly attributable to protective inoculation can only be assessed by observation of the epidemiological behaviour and character of the disease over a period of years. It was noted, however, that many vaccinated children escaped infection though intimately exposed to it and that the clinical course of the illness was generally very mild and of short duration in vaccinated children who were subsequently attacked.

There were relatively very few cases of measles, as a large proportion of the children in the susceptible age groups had contracted the disease in the extensive outbreak in 1957, and thereby acquired immunity to further attack. Only one case was removed to hospital; the remainder were visited by the Health Visitors who reported that the facilities for home isolation were generally satisfactory.

The number of notified cases of pneumonia was also by far the smallest in the past few years, probably in consequence of the relative freedom from influenza, which is not infrequently complicated by pneumonia. It may be noted that the number of deaths ascribed to pneumonia greatly exceeds the number of cases notified; these figures are not directly related, as the recorded deaths were mainly from non-notifiable forms of the disease.

Dysentery was not as widespread in the District as the number of reported cases would suggest. Ninety-three of these occurred at the Lingfield Hospital School where a fairly extensive outbreak of the disease in April was followed by another in the months of November and December. It is extremely unlikely that the infection persisted in the interim and, from the information available, it would appear that the second outbreak was due to introduction of a fresh infection by children returning from holidays in other districts. Several of the cases included in the total were symptomless carriers who were discovered in the course of routine investigation of contacts. One case was reported from the Warlingham Park Hospital; the remaining 15 occurred amongst the general population, were widely scattered in distribution, and, so far as could be ascertained, were unconnected with each other or with any known source of infection, except in one instance where four members of the same household were almost simultaneously affected. One hundred cases were removed to hospital, together with 3 suspected cases, which were not subsequently confirmed. All the cases reported during the year were due to the Sonne type of organism and were troublesome mainly from the point of view of investigation and supervision of contacts, including the collection of specimens for laboratory examination.

The two confirmed cases of poliomyelitis were both paralytic in type and of moderate severity. One occurred in February and the other in September and in neither was it possible to isolate and identify the infecting type of virus. Both cases were removed to hospital. The number of confirmed cases was very much smaller than usual, though in this instance also it would be premature to conclude that the sharp fall in prevalence is associated directly with protective inoculation. It has been the accepted practice in recent years to advise removal to hospital of suspected cases of poliomyelitis occurring during the period of expected prevalence of the disease; three suspected cases removed during the year were found after full investigation, to be suffering from non-infectious ailments.

The appearance of enteric fever in a rural district is always a matter of serious concern in view of the favourable opportunities for dissemination of such infection in rural communities. One of the cases recorded during the year had clearly contracted the infection abroad and conveyed it to a member of the household in which she stayed on her return to this country. Both cases were treated in hospital and appropriate precautionary measures were taken in relation to immediate contacts. Three residents of the Rural District who were known to have been in contact with cases of enteric fever elsewhere were kept under surveillance for the prescribed period.

The one notification of food poisoning related to a patient who was admitted to hospital with acute gastro-enteritis which was found, on laboratory investigation, to be caused by a type of food poisoning organism (*salmonella newport*). The source of infection was not discovered. Home contacts of the case were kept under surveillance until laboratory examination of specimens had established their freedom from infection.

One resident of the Rural District had puerperal pyrexia, i.e. rise of temperature during the lying-in period. The case was successfully treated at home.

TUBERCULOSIS

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table V, together with an analysis of the deaths in the area from the disease during the same period.

The marked downward trend in the prevalence of tuberculosis of the lungs continued in 1958, a total of twelve such cases being notified, as compared with twenty in 1957 and twenty-two in 1956. The rate of prevalence was equivalent to 0.33 per 1,000 of the population, which is very much lower than any experienced in the Godstone Rural District in the past twenty-five years. The reduction in prevalence was entirely confined to males, though it may be recalled that a similar decline was observed in the number of females affected in 1957. Another favourable circumstance was that, on the whole, the new cases were discovered at an earlier stage, in several instances through the medium of mass radiography, and were consequently more amenable to treatment leading to complete recovery.

Non-respiratory forms of tuberculosis, which are generally of less serious significance than lung infection, remained at the average annual level of the preceding five years. In this case the response to preventive measures, and more particularly those directed to the eradication of the disease in dairy herds, the pasteurisation of milk supplies, etc., has been less striking than in lung tuberculosis, where infection is spread chiefly by personal contact. In recent years, however, there have been relatively fewer cases of bone and joint tuberculosis, which is not infrequently followed by some degree of deformity or impairment of function.

In addition to the new cases notified for the first time, there were reports of fourteen previously-known cases of tuberculosis who had recently taken up residence in the district. In many of these the disease is considered to be quiescent or arrested, but all are under the supervision of the staff of the Chest Clinic.

There were two deaths from tuberculosis of the lungs as compared with three in 1957 and one in 1956. The mortality rate was, therefore, 0.5 per 1,000 of the population which is equivalent to one-half of the average mortality rate from this cause in the preceding ten years. No mortality was attributed to tuberculosis of other organs.

TABLE V.

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS AND ALL DEATHS
FROM THE DISEASE IN THE AREA DURING 1958
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE, SEX AND TYPE OF DISEASE

Age periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 years	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 years	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 years	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55 years	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
55 - 65 years	2	1	-	-	-	2	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Totals	7	5	1	3	-	2	-	-
Totals 1957	14	4	1	2	2	1	1	1

At the end of the year there were 201 known cases of tuberculosis in the district, including 161 (89 males and 72 females) in which the lungs were affected and 40 (14 males and 26 females) with tuberculosis of other organs. Forty-six cases were removed from the list during the year, two on death, 32 on leaving the district and 12 on complete recovery from the disease.

No special action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.).

The South East Surrey Care Association, which works in close association with the local chest clinics, continued its activities on behalf of tuberculous persons and their dependants. Assistance granted during the year included the supply of extra nourishment, fuel, bedding, clothing, sick room requisites, etc., and payment of fares, pocket money and other incidental expenses which could not be met from official sources.

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Information relating to the prevalence of non-notifiable infectious and contagious diseases is necessarily incomplete, and is obtained mainly from reports of school absentees, the periodic statements of sickness claims submitted to the local office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance in relation to insured persons and the Registrar's weekly returns of deaths. Cases also come to notice through enquiries by employers with regard to quarantine periods, requests for disinfection, casual communications by private medical practitioners and applications for domestic assistance under the Home Help Scheme.

Information obtained from these various sources did not indicate undue prevalence of non-notifiable infectious or contagious disease in the Rural District in 1958. The reported cases included eighty-four of chicken-pox, which invaded the Godstone and Bletchingley districts in the early months of the year, and thirty-five of mumps, which was practically confined to children attending school at Baldwins Hill. Cases admitted to hospital for treatment or investigation included four of chicken-pox, four of non-infective gastro-enteritis, one of mumps and one of suspected enteric fever. Two members of one family who were found to be suffering from scabies were successfully treated as hospital out-patients.

In the latter part of 1957 a considerable number of school children in the Felbridge district were reported to have had sudden attacks of abdominal pain, followed by moderately severe vomiting. Full investigation and laboratory examination of specimens failed to discover the presence of any bacterial or chemical agent to which the illness could be attributed. It was concluded that these were typical attacks of epidemic vomiting of virus causation and that infection was probably disseminated through the medium of school attendance. In spite of the precautionary measures adopted, a further group of cases occurred in the early months of 1958 and again in the Autumn term, with a few sporadic cases in the meantime. Repeated laboratory examination and investigation of possible sources of infection again yielded negative results and it was necessary to continue the practice of exclusion from school of affected pupils as the most effective method of control.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination against Small-pox.

Vaccination against small-pox is not at present undertaken at the County Council's Clinics in the area. Particulars of notifications of vaccinations performed by private medical practitioners during the year are as follows:

	<u>0 - 1</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>1 - 5</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>5 - 15</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>Over 15</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Primary Vaccination.</u>	334	68	25	20	447
<u>Re-vaccination.</u>	-	7	41	125	173

The number of primary vaccinations of infants under the age of one year is very much greater than usual and is equivalent to roughly 55.0 per cent of the live births registered in 1958. This is the highest acceptance rate observed in the Rural District since compulsory powers in relation to small-pox vaccination were abolished under the National Health Service Act, and is appreciably above the recent estimated vaccination rate of 43.0 per cent for England and Wales.

Most of the re-vaccinations were of persons who were required to produce a certificate of recent vaccination to enable them to travel abroad. Such certificates must be authenticated by the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the vaccination was performed.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

Immunisation against diphtheria is available through general medical practitioners and at the County Council's Clinics in the area. The numbers of children artificially immunised during the year are as follows:

<u>0 - 1</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>1 - 5</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>5 - 15</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>Total</u>
279	132	89	500

In addition, reinforcing doses of diphtheria prophylactic were given to 292 persons, most of whom were school entrants who had completed a course of immunisation three or four years previously.

Fewer children were immunised against diphtheria than in 1957, mainly because of concentration on the poliomyelitis vaccination programme. Nevertheless, the numbers who completed a course of immunisation represent a fairly satisfactory proportion of those eligible for treatment. The use of combined vaccines for simultaneous protection against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus was suspended during the summer months in view of their possible role in provoking the onset of poliomyelitis.

It is estimated that not less than 60.0 per cent of children under the age of fifteen years have been artificially immunised against diphtheria, either by their own doctors or at the County Council's clinics.

Vaccination against Whooping Cough.

Vaccination against whooping cough is intended mainly for infants under the age of one year and is undertaken by private medical practitioners and at the County Council's clinics in the area. The numbers of children who completed a course of treatment under these arrangements are as follows:-

	<u>Under 1</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>1 - 2</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>2 - 3</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>3 - 4</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>4 - 5</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>5 - 15</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Primary</u> <u>Immunised</u>	273	91	22	1	7	12	406
<u>Reinforcing</u> <u>Injectons.</u>	-	1	2	4	2	39	48

As in the case of diphtheria immunisation, and for the same reason, the numbers vaccinated against whooping cough were somewhat smaller than in the previous year. It is estimated that at least 45.0 per cent of the infants born in 1958 completed a course of whooping cough vaccination.

It is recognised that vaccination does not, in every case, afford absolute protection against whooping cough, but there is ample evidence that the vaccines now available confer a very high degree of immunity in a large proportion of cases and greatly reduce the severity and duration of the illness and the liability of complications in vaccinated children who are subsequently attacked.

Measles Prophylaxis.

Immune serum is available through the Public Health Department for the total or partial immunisation of susceptible measles contacts. No. request for serum was received during the year.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

Selected home contacts of infectious cases of tuberculosis are offered protective inoculation with B.C.G. vaccine if the skin test indicates that they have not already had a primary infection. This work is undertaken by the Chest Physician of the area with occasional assistance from the Divisional Medical Staff.

In addition, skin testing and, where necessary, B.C.G.vaccination, are undertaken as routine procedure in the case of thirteen-year-old pupils in attendance at County Council and independent schools. Subject to the consent of their parents, the pupils in this age group have a skin test to ascertain if they have already had a primary tuberculous infection, and those giving a negative result are offered B.C.G.vaccination. Eight senior schools in the Godstone Rural District were dealt with during the year, with the following results:-

Number of children eligible for treatment	431
Number consenting to treatment	250
Percentage consenting to treatment	58.0

Number Mantoux tested	228
Number giving a negative reaction	195
Percentage giving a negative reaction	85.5

Number of negative reactors vaccinated	195
Percentage of negative reactors vaccinated	100

The re-testing of vaccinated pupils has been discontinued in view of the very high proportion who have been found in the past to have acquired the desired level of immunity as a result of B.C.G. vaccination.

The rate of acceptance of testing and vaccination and the proportion of negative re-actors do not differ greatly from those recorded in other districts. There were, however, very wide differences under both headings at the various schools, the findings on the whole being less favourable at independent than at County Council schools. The proportion of negative reactors vaccinated is especially satisfactory.

While the primary purpose of the scheme is the ascertainment and vaccination of children who have not already acquired some degree of immunity by natural means, it is the usual practice, where possible, to x-ray the positive reactors to exclude the possibility of active infection.

No unfavourable x-ray findings were reported during the year.

Apart from the routine skin testing and vaccination of thirteen-year-old pupils a special investigation was conducted at a private school when it became known that a pupil who had recently been in attendance was suffering from active tuberculosis of the lungs. A total of 355 pupils who may have been in contact with the case were skin tested; 43 who gave a positive reaction and 18 members of the teaching staff were referred for chest x-ray examination which, in every instance, was reported to be satisfactory. It was thought unlikely, therefore that the affected pupil had contracted the disease at school or had been the means of spreading infection to her teachers or classmates. It is of interest to add that the school concerned was one at which the acceptance rate for B.C.G. vaccination was by far the lowest in the district.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Protective inoculation against paralytic poliomyelitis has been included in the County Council's immunisation arrangements since the early part of 1956 and was, at that time, restricted to children between the ages of two and nine years. The scheme has since been extended to those between the ages of six months and fifteen years and, since September 1958, to those up to the age of twenty-five years, in addition to expectant mothers, medical practitioners and their families, ambulance personnel and others specially exposed to risk; at the same time it was advised that the course of immunisation should consist of three inoculations instead of two as previously, the third being given about seven months after the second.

The difficulties encountered in the early stages of the scheme because of shortage of the British type vaccine then in use were largely overcome by the importation of Salk vaccine of American and Canadian manufacture, which was generally available in adequate quantities during 1958. This vaccine is packed in containers of nine or ten doses and is not, therefore, suitable for issue to medical practitioners

WATER SUPPLY

With the exception of the Parish of Tatsfield, which obtains its supply mainly from the Metropolitan Water Board, the whole of the Rural District is supplied by the East Surrey Water Company. In parts of the Parish of Oxted, the Parish of Limpsfield and the parts of Tatsfield supplied by the Company, the water is derived from the lower greensand, and elsewhere from deep borings in the chalk; the water from both sources is chlorinated and de-chlorinated before distribution to consumers..

The supplies from the public water mains were adequate in quantity throughout the year. The quality, as revealed by chemical and bacteriological examination at regular intervals, was invariably reported to be satisfactory. No action was necessary in respect of any form of contamination.

Samples of the water before and after treatment are submitted for bacteriological examination, under private arrangements made by the Water Companies concerned. In addition, samples of the treated water are examined chemically and/or bacteriologically about forty times a year, under a rota system arranged by the Medical Officers of Health of the districts supplied by the East Surrey Water Company; samples are taken in each district at stated times and copies of the Analyst's reports are circulated to all the districts concerned. The number of samples taken within the Godstone Rural District during the year was 41 East Surrey Water Company, and 7 Metropolitan Water Board. On each occasion the report was satisfactory.

The estimated number of dwelling-houses in each parish supplied from the public water mains (direct to houses and by means of stand-pipes), wells and rain-water tanks are set out in Table VI. The population supplied under each heading is shown in brackets.

Supplies from rain-water tanks are confined to out-lying dwellings in the Parish of Tatsfield and not infrequently fail completely after prolonged periods of dry weather. This however, did not arise during the summer owing to an adequate rainfall during this period. Additional supplies of water for drinking and domestic purposes can be obtained from the Metropolitan Water Board, on payment of the transport costs.

TABLE VI.

	DIRECT TO HOUSES	STAND PIPES	WELLS	RAIN WATER TANKS
Bletchingley	954 (3151)	10 (35)	8 (25)	
Burstow	935 (3257)		4 (14)	
Chelsham	321 (1213)			4 (15)
Crowhurst	114 (321)			
Felbridge	554 (1479)	1 (3)	4 (12)	
Godstone	1400 (4418)	12 (36)	5 (14)	
Horne	250 (788)		7 (20)	
Limpsfield	1217 (3442)		3 (7)	
Lingfield	2309 (6505)		6 (15)	
Nutfield	622 (2013)	17 (33)	2 (4)	
Oxted	1892 (6950)		2 (7)	
Tandridge	228 (795)		2 (5)	
Tatsfield	342 (996)	3 (9)		66 (220)
Titsey	44 (128)			
<u>TOTALS</u>	11,182 (35,456)	43 (116)	43 (123)	70 (235)

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

During 1958 sewer extensions were made at Burstow, Godstone and Oxted and some 300 houses were connected thereto.

TABLE VII
CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Address of Clinic	Infant Welfare	Ante-Natal	Dental	Eye	Minor ailments	Remedial Exercises	Speech Therapy
<u>BLETCHINGLEY.</u> Church Room	Thursday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>BLINDLEY HEATH.</u> Foreman Institute	Friday p.m. (2nd & 4th).	-	-	-	Friday p.m. (2nd & 4th).	-	-
<u>DORMANSLAND.</u> Baptist Chapel	Monday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-	-	Monday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-
<u>GODSTONE.</u> Wayte Hart Barn	Wednesday p.m. (1st, 3rd & 5th)	-	-	-	Wednesday p.m. (1st, 3rd. & 5th)	-	-
<u>HURST GREEN.</u> St. Saviour's Hall.	Monday p.m.	-	-	-	Monday p.m.	-	-
<u>LIMPSFIELD.</u> Chart Hall.	Thursday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-	-	Thursday p.m. (2nd & 4th).	-	-
<u>LINGFIELD.</u> Bakers Lane (Lingfield 43)	Thursday p.m.	Friday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	Wednesday a.m. and p.m. Thursday p.m.	Friday p.m. (4th)	Friday a.m. (1st & 3rd)	By appoint- ment	By appoint- ment
<u>MUTFIELD, SOUTH.</u> Village Hall.	Thursday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	Thursday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-
<u>OXFED.</u> Congregational Hall, Station Road East. (Oxford 3164)	Thursday p.m.	Monday a.m.	Friday a.m. and p.m.	Wednesday a.m. (1st & 3rd)	Monday a.m.	By appoint- ment	-
<u>SHILLFIELD.</u> Church Hall	Thursday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	Thursday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-
<u>THURSFIELD.</u> Parish Hall	Wednesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	Wednesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-

TABLE VII
CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Address of Clinic	Infant Welfare	Ante-Natal	Dental	Eye	Minor ailments	Remedial Exercises	Speech Therapy
<u>BLETCHINGLEY.</u> Church Room	Thursday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>BLINDLEY HEATH.</u> Foreman Institute	Friday p.m. (2nd & 4th).	-	-	-	Friday p.m. (2nd & 4th).	-	-
<u>DORMANSLAND.</u> Baptist Chapel	Monday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-	-	Monday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-
<u>GODSTONE.</u> Whyte Hart Barn	Wednesday p.m. (1st, 3rd & 5th)	-	-	-	Wednesday p.m. (1st, 3rd. & 5th)	-	-
<u>HURST GREEN.</u> St. Agatha's Hall.	Monday p.m.	-	-	-	Monday p.m.	-	-
<u>LIMPSEFIELD.</u> Chart Hall.	Thursday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-	-	Thursday p.m. (2nd & 4th).	-	-
<u>LINGFIELD.</u> Balcers Lane (Lingfield 4,3)	Tuesday p.m.	Friday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	Wednesday a.m. and p.m. Thursday p.m.	Friday p.m. (4th)	Friday a.m. (1st & 3rd)	By appoint- ment	By appoint- ment
<u>NUTFIELD, SOUTH.</u> Village Hall.	Tuesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	Tuesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-
<u>OXTED.</u> Congregational Hall, Station Road East. (Oxted 3164)	Tuesday p.m.	Monday a.m.	Friday a.m. and p.m.	Wednesday a.m. (1st & 3rd)	Monday a.m.	By appoint- ment	-
<u>SHILFILD.</u> Church Hall	Thursday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	Thursday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-
<u>TILTSFIELD.</u> Parish Hall	Wednesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	Wednesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-

SECTION II

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Inspections under Public Health Acts	165
Re-inspections	90
Inspections under Housing Acts	249
Re-inspections	158
Inspections for issue of Certificates of Disrepair	53
Drainage surveys	110
Visits to Slaughter Houses for Meat Inspection	1358
Visits to Knackers Yards	8
Visits to Dairies and Cowsheds	141
Visits to Schools	73
Inspection of Food - number of visits	28
Inspections of Food Premises	41
Inspections of Factories and Workshops	56
Piggeries - Inspections and Re-inspections	18
Inspections of Tents, Vans etc.	44
Inspections under Petroleum Acts and Regulations	159
Drains Water tested	18
Inspection of drainage work in progress	72
Notices served:-	
(a) Informal	153
(b) Statutory	14
Complaints investigated	88
Infectious disease enquiries and collection of specimens	96
Inspection of refuse tips	52
Samples of drinking water submitted for Bacterial and/or Chemical Analysis	31
Miscellaneous inspections	124
Number of Cesspools cleansed	2851
Number of loads removed from cesspools	5072
Disinfection of premises	8
Disinfestation of premises	122
Premises inspected for rat or mice infestation	1524
Rat Infestations dealt with by Public Health Department	238
Inspections under Pet Animals Act	3

SECTION III

H O U S I N G

TABLE VIII

1.	<u>Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year 1958.</u>	
(i)	Inspections of houses under Housing and Public Health Acts	414
(ii)	Number of dwellinghouses (included in sub-head (i)) which were inspected under the Housing Acts only.	151
(iii)	Number of dwellinghouses found to be so unfit as to be incapable of repair at a reasonable cost.	16
(iv)	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	64
2.	<u>Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied.</u>	
(i)	After informal action by local authority.	50
(ii)	After formal notice under (a) Public Health Act.	9
	(b) Housing Act, 1957.	5
3.	<u>Houses Demolished.</u>	
(i)	Clearance Areas.	Nil
(ii)	Not in Clearance Area - as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 Housing Act, 1957.	1
4.	<u>Unfit houses closed.</u>	
(i)	Under Section 16 Housing Act, 1957, and Section 10(1) and 11(2) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.	16
(ii)	Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957.	Nil
5.	<u>Rent Act, 1957.</u>	
(i)	Number of applications received for Certificates of Disrepair.	16
(ii)	Councils decision to issue Form L Notices under Schedule III	16
(iii)	Number of undertakings given by landlords to remedy defects	4
(iv)	Number of Certificates of Disrepair issued	8
(v)	Number of Certificates cancelled on completion of work.	2
(vi)	Number of applications for certificates of disrepair withdrawn	2
6.	<u>Houses Erected.</u>	
(i)	Number of houses completed in 1958 by private enterprise.	234
(ii)	Number completed by local authority.	101

SECTION IV.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The factories on the Register of the
Local Authority are as follows:-

TABLE IX

	<u>Mechanical Power</u>	<u>Non-Mechan- ical Power</u>	<u>Total</u>
Aircraft Components	1	0	1
Agricultural Engineers	1	0	1
Aircraft Repairs (Engines)	1	0	1
Bakeries	10	5	15
Boot Repairing	2	0	2
Brass Finishing	1	0	1
Brick Making	4	0	4
Builders	5	9	14
Button Making	1	0	1
Cabinet Makers	1	1	2
Chemical Manufacturers	1	0	1
Cleaners and Dyers	1	0	1
Coach Builders	1	0	1
Concrete Products	2	0	2
Corn Provenders	2	0	2
Cosmetics	1	0	1
Cycle Repairers	0	1	1
Dairies	2	2	4
Dressmaking	0	1	1
Electrical Engineering	2	2	4
Fire Extinguishers	1	0	1
Flour Milling	2	0	2
Fruit Storage	1	0	1
Fullers Earth Works	2	0	2
French Chlax Grinders	1	0	1
Gas Storage	3	0	3
Grass Drying	2	0	2
Hydraulic Equipment	1	0	1
Jewellers	0	2	2
Joinery	7	1	8
Launderies	2	4	6
Leaded Lights	1	0	1
Light Engineering Works	8	0	8
Motor Repairers	25	2	27
Plumbers	0	1	1
Pottery	1	0	1
Printers	2	0	2
Projection Room	1	0	1
Radar Assembly	1	0	1
Rectifiers	1	0	1
Refrigerator Repairs	1	0	1
Rodent Destruction	0	1	1
Saddlery	0	2	2
Sawmills	2	0	2
Stonemason	0	1	1
Smithies	2	0	2
Tile Making	1	0	1
Tool Makers	1	0	1
Tailoring	0	4	4
Upholstery	1	0	1
Wax Modelling	1	0	1
Wheelwrights	2	0	2
Woodcrafts	2	0	2
	114	39	153

The following Table indicating the work carried out during the year 1958 in connection with the inspection of Factories, is submitted in accordance with Section 128 of the Act:-

INSPECTIONS.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	39	12	Nil	Nil
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	114	40	3	Nil
3. Other premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	153	52	3	Nil

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	Nil	1	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	Nil	2	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	3	3	Nil	3	Nil

OUTWORK (SECTION 110 and 111)

During the course of the year, 7 lists of outworkers were received, and these referred to the following occupations:-

Wearing apparel - making etc.	...	3
Finishing of leather goods	...	1
Box making	... ..	1
Artificial jewels	... ..	1
Lamp shades	... ..	2

The eight premises concerned were private houses. The houses were found to be satisfactory and no action was necessary under the Factories Act.

FIRE PRECAUTIONS (SECTION 34)

Although no additional certificates as to the adequacy of means of escape in case of fire were issued during the year, two premises are being altered and improved following recommendations by the Public Health Department and when these are completed, certificates will be granted.

Visits of inspection were made to factory premises as set out in Table IX of this Report.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The amount of refuse to be collected and disposed of again showed a steady increase in quantity. By far the greater proportion of the refuse is combustible and also very bulky. This is not only costly to remove but results in filling valuable tipping space.

Attention is again drawn to the obvious advantages of householders destroying such material on their own premises wherever possible and thus help to increase the amount of space available for the collection of indestructable refuse. This would undoubtedly result in better schedules and more frequent collections. Bad weather and breakdowns are still unpredictable hazards and when either occurs, the collection time table suffer very considerably. Holiday periods also give rise to difficulties, mainly because we have no reserve labour or vehicles to draw upon on these occasions and it would of course be most uneconomic to overstaff just to meet these occasional requirements. Much has been said regarding the desirability of a weekly refuse collection throughout the Rural District, but an average household should not experience any real difficulty in keeping the amount of refuse to a reasonable amount pending collection at fortnightly intervals.

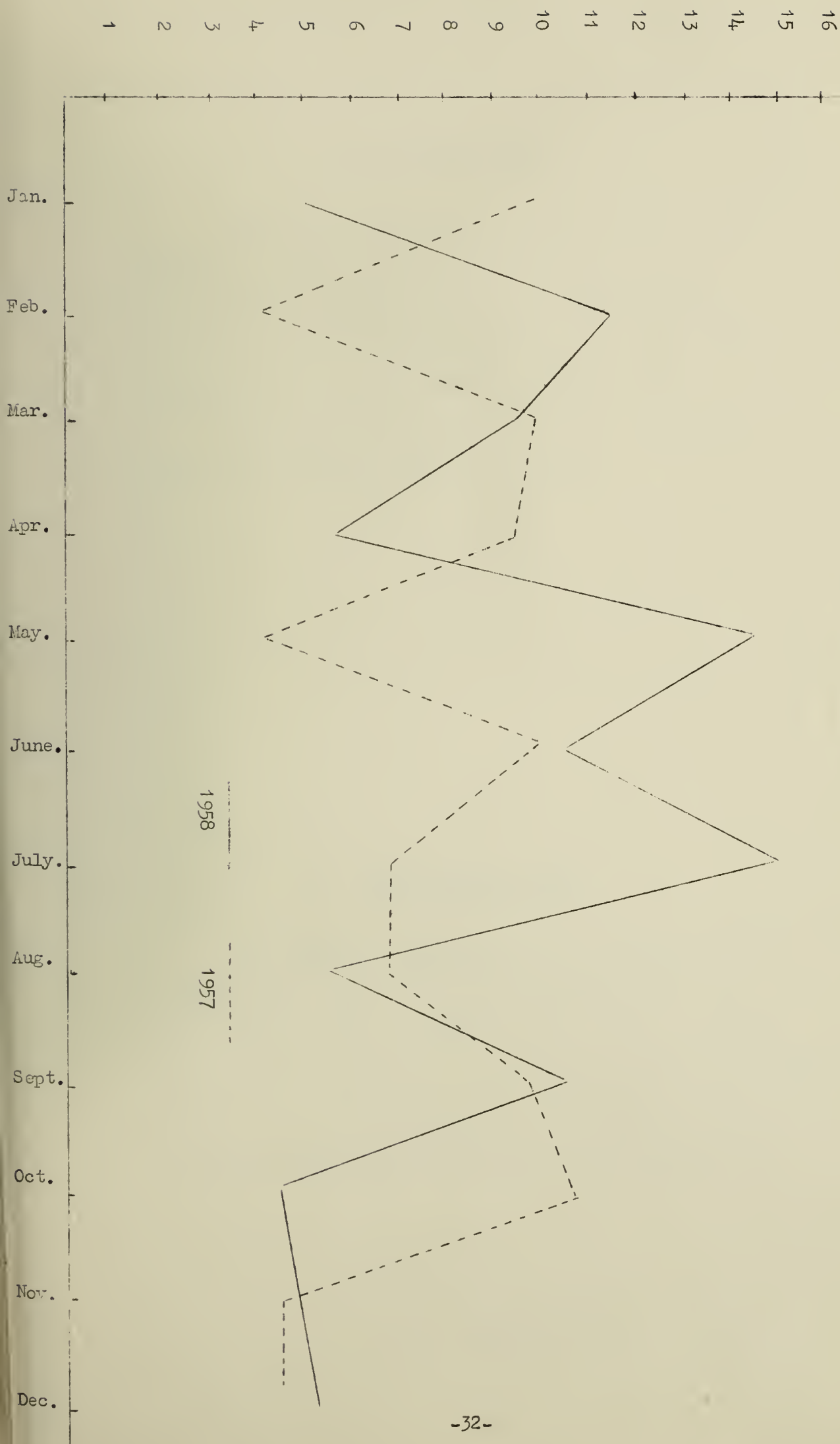
Damage by hooligans and children continues to occur at the refuse disposal tip although not on the scale experienced a few months ago. This is probably due partly to better Police supervision and partly to the wet weather which persisted throughout the Autumn, making the tip a very unexciting place to play in.

Controlled tipping is carried out at the tip which is situated at Taylors Hill Sandpit, Godstone. The Chaseside mechanical shovel and spreader has done good service during the year in levelling, rolling and surfacing the tip and roadways. Mechanical aid of this nature is absolutely essential in order to maintain reasonable surfaces for lorries to traverse for tipping purposes.

The Thames Board Mills continue to take all our waste paper for repulping and manufacture. We sent 103 tons during the year under review, but the market seems to be in a continual state of uncertainty as to the future requirements. A chart is attached showing the monthly tonnages sent to the Mill.

Tons

SALVAGE COLLECTION



PET SHOPS ACT, 1951

Applications for renewal of licences required under this Act were again received and in each case there was no hesitation in granting renewal. Two of the premises concerned are private dwellings, the owners of which breed budgerigars and sell those surplus to requirements

The businesses are all conducted in a satisfactory manner and no official action was necessary.

FIREGUARDS ACT, 1952

All reputable manufacturers are producing apparatus which complies fully with the provisions laid down in the Fireguards Act, 1952, and therefore, the amount of testing required is now greatly reduced. However, constant observation is kept on shop window displays to check that new designs are in accordance with the requirements of the Fireguards Act.

CESSPOOL CLEANSING

In 1958, the number of cesspools emptied and loads removed was greater than that of the previous year's total. The number of cesspools cleansed being 2,351 involving the removal of 5,072 loads. As a matter of interest, this represents a gallonage amounting to 3,804,010. We again employed a contractor in order to enable us to meet the very heavy demands made upon our two vehicles, and he cleansed 1,061 cesspools and removed 1,881 loads in the process.

The benefits of losing some 102 premises connected to main drainage at Tatsfield, has, to a great extent, been offset by the construction of new property draining to cesspools in other parts of the district. Nevertheless, the gradual extension of new sewers is very much a step in the right direction and the sooner more schemes can be put in hand, the sooner we shall be enabled to discontinue or at least greatly reduce the uneconomic emptying and disposal of cesspool contents.

The deposit of large quantities of semi septic sewage into the sewers is unfortunately not acceptable where small disposal works are concerned and this entails long haulages chiefly to Lingfield from all parts of the district.

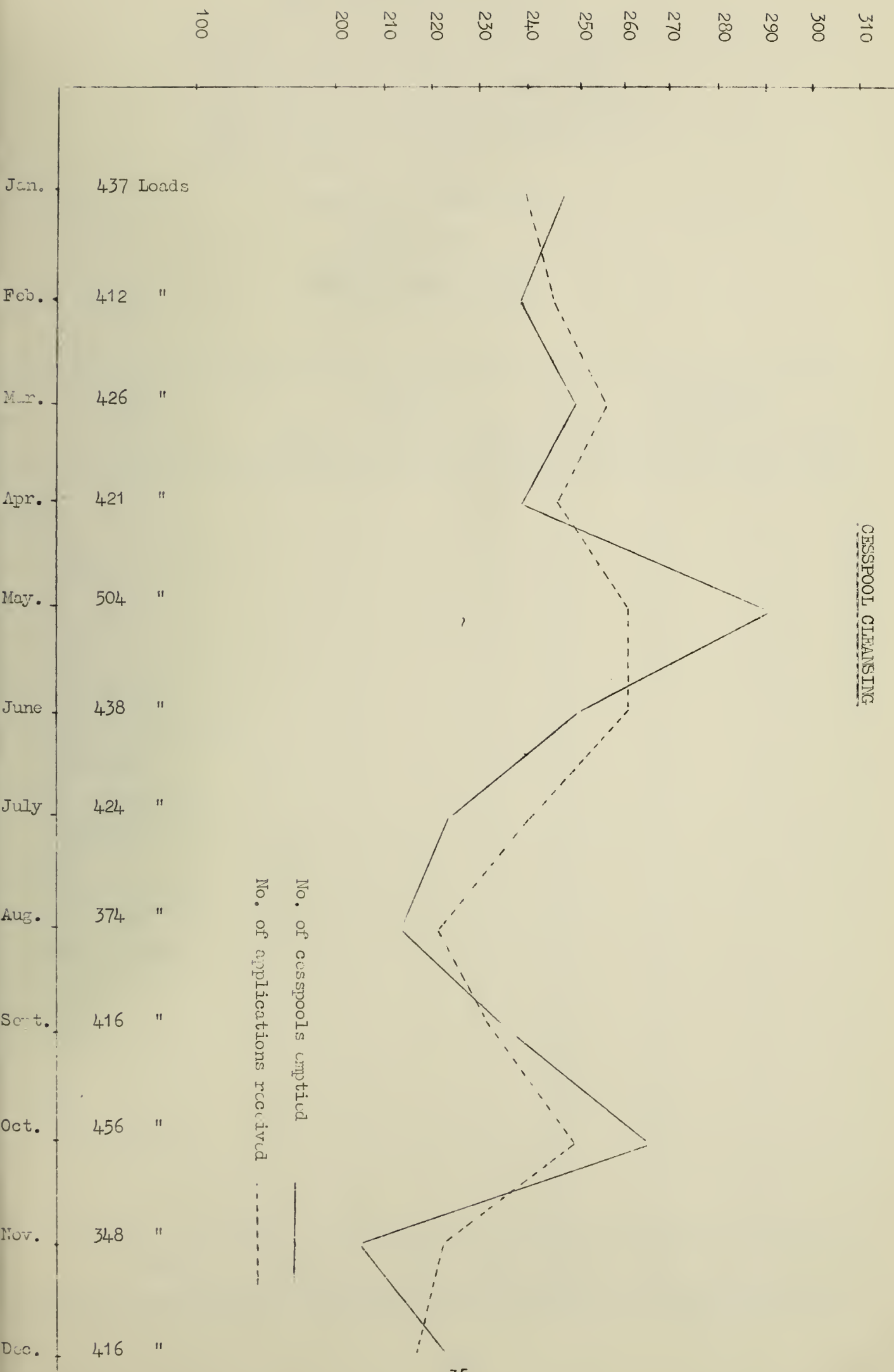
MORTUARY

The number of bodies brought into the Mortuary during the year was 55 and of these, 27 came from the Godstone Rural District, and 28 from the Caterham and Warlingham Urban District. Lack of refrigerating facilities again resulted in some difficulties during the warmer months and there is no doubt that if such facilities were available, a much better standard of hygiene would result.

The Mortuary Keeper carried out his duties efficiently and well, but there were occasions when the condition of the Mortuary was not satisfactory, due to sudden influx of bodies for post mortem examination, and the Mortuary Keeper was hard pressed to keep abreast of the work involved.

Although the average number of bodies dealt with only amounts to just over one per week, nevertheless as many as 4 have been received into the Mortuary within a few hours producing periods of intense activity.

CESSPOOL CLEANSING



SECTION V

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The Surrey County Council is the Authority responsible for the sampling of foodstuffs, and the following list is a record of the samples and action taken within the Godstone Rural District. In addition a return of the samples submitted and analysed throughout the County for 1958, is appended.

SAMPLES AND ACTION TAKEN

WITHIN THE

GODSTONE RURAL DISTRICT.

Articles	Analysed			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
<u>FOOD:</u>						
Biscuits	1	-	1			
Bread	2	1	3			
Cereal	1	-	1			
Confectionery, flour	2	-	2	1	-	1
Confectionery, sugar	2	-	2			
Fish Cakes	1	-	1			
Meat, cooked and prepared	18	-	18	12	-	12
Milk	63	8	71	1	-	1
Mushroom ketchup	1	-	1			
Pudding mixture	1	-	1			
Vinegar	1	-	1			
Whisky	4	-	4			
<u>DRUGS:</u>						
Glucose tablets	1	-	1			
TOTALS	98	9	107	14	-	14

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

Return of Samples analysed during year 1958.

Articles	Samples			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
FOOD:						
Almonds, ground	4	-	4	1	1	2
Biscuits	1	1	2			
Blackcurrant juice syrup	-	1	1			
Bread	3	3	6	1+	-	1
Butter	10	-	10			
Buttered Roll	1	-	1			
Cake mixture, chocolate	-	1	1	-	1	1
Cereal	1	-	1			
Christmas Pudding	-	1	1			
Chocolate Drink	1	-	1			
Confectionery, flour	2	2	4	1	-	1
Confectionery, sugar	3	3	6			
Cream, double	4	-	4	1	-	1
Cream, single	3	-	3			
Cream, tinned	-	1	1			
Eggs	-	1	1			
Figs	-	1	1			
Fish Cakes	2	1	3			
Flour	1	4	5			
Fruitarian Sandwich	-	1	1	-	1	1
Gin	2	-	2			
Ice Cream	3	9	12	1	2	3
Ice Lollie	-	1	1	-	1	1
Jam	4	6	10			
Lard	1	-	1			
Lemon Curd	2	-	2			
Margarine	1	-	1			
Marzipan	3	-	3			
Meat, cooked and prepared	25	44	69	14	10	24
Milk	635	71	706	16 [±]	1	17
Milk, hot	1	-	1	1	-	1
Mincemeat	2	1	3			
Mushroom ketchup	1	-	1			
Mustard	-	2	2			
Peas, frozen	1	-	1			
Peel, cut mixed	-	2	2	-	1	1
Pie filling	-	1	1			
Pie, fruit	-	1	1			
Pies, meat	-	7	7			
Pineapple juice	-	1	1			
Plums, tinned	-	4	4			
Pudding mixture	1	-	1			
Pudding, steak and kidney	-	1	1			
Raspberries, tinned	-	3	3			
Ravioli in tomato sauce	-	1	1			
Salad Cream	-	2	2			
Salmon with butter	-	1	1			
Carried forward	718	179	897	36	18	54

+ Legal proceedings pending.

± Legal proceedings in respect of one sample were instituted against a Dairy Farmer who pleaded "Guilty" to selling Channel Islands Milk deficient in milk fat. He was given an absolute discharge and ordered to pay £3.3.0d. costs.

Articles	Samples			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
<u>Brought forward</u>	713	179	897	36	18	54
<u>FOOD: (Continued)</u>						
Sausage Rolls	-	1	1			
Sausage, slicing	-	1	1			
Sausages	5	7	12	-	2	2
Soft Drinks	2	3	5			
Soup, tinned	-	1	1	-	1	1
Strawberry syrup	-	1	1			
Sugar	3	-	3			
Tea	3	-	3			
Tomato juice	-	1	1			
Tomato ketchup	-	1	1			
Tomato paste	-	1	1			
Vegetable & Yeast Extract	-	1	1			
Vegetarian Snacks	-	3	3			
Vinegar	1	2	3			
Whisky	20	-	20			
Wine	-	4	4			
<u>DRUGS:</u>						
Castor Oil	-	1	1			
Codeine tablets B.P.	-	1	1			
Cod Liver Oil and Malt	-	2	2			
Cough linctus	-	1	1			
Cough mixture	-	1	1			
Glucose tablets	1	-	1			
Insect repellent cream	-	1	1			
Surgical spirit	-	1	1			
Throat pastilles	-	3	3			
Insect sting cream	-	1	1	-	1	1
Totals	753	218	971	36	22	58

SECTION VI

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

There are 4 dairy premises (excluding dairy farms) in the district. Two premises are pasteurising establishments licensed by the Surrey County Council, and the remaining 2 premises bottle raw milk from farms in the district, in addition to the distribution of pasteurised milk supplied in bottles from one of the larger dairy companies, which delivers milk pasteurised and bottled by midday the same day as produced.

The Godstone Rural District Council are agents for the Surrey County Council with respect to supervision of methods, cleanliness and sampling at the pasteurising establishments, and milk supplied by both dairies is sampled at least twice every month. A further 4 samples per month are taken at schools supplied by each dairy. The samples are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Brighton for the methylene blue and phosphatase tests, and from the table below, it will be seen that with very few exceptions, the milk is satisfactorily pasteurised in accordance with the heat treatment regulations. When a failure of the tests results, investigations are made and the appropriate action is taken. Failure of the phosphatase test is usually due to a fault in the delicate mechanism of the recording thermometers. These recording thermometers are checked periodically against a check thermometer as a routine measure.

Raw milk is supplied by the dairies and by farms holding Producer/Retailer licences issued by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food. There are some 20 such suppliers in the district and samples of these raw milks are taken 4 times per year and submitted for biological examination for tuberculosis and *Brucella abortus*. No samples taken during the year were found to contain tubercle bacilli. The biological examination for the presence of *brucella abortus* revealed one case, where the live organism was present in the milk. The herd involved was referred to the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and in conjunction with the Divisional Veterinary Inspector and the Weybridge Laboratory extensive investigations into all aspects of this disease have been carried out. Details of milk samples taken and the results are set out in the following table.

Milk Samples (Farms)

(a)	No. of samples passed biological examination	65
(b)	" " " failed " "	Nil
(c)	" " " void	2
Total number of farm milk samples taken		67

Milk Samples (Dairies)

(a)	No. of samples satisfied Meth.Blue and Phosphatase exam	68
(b)	" " " failed " " exam	3
(c)	" " " " Phosphatase "	2
Total number of dairy milk samples taken		73

Milk Samples (Schools)

(a)	No. of samples satisfied Meth.Blue and Phosphatase exam	64
(b)	" " " failed " " exam	2
(c)	" " " " Phosphatase "	Nil
Total number of school milk samples taken		66

Laboratory Facilities.

All samples of milk, water and food and pathological specimens are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Brighton and our thanks must be given to Dr. Jameson and his staff for providing a most helpful, satisfactory and efficient service throughout the year.

The samples and specimens are normally collected during the morning and despatched to the laboratory either by train from Oxted or Redhill or by the Southdown Bus Company from the East Grinstead Terminus in order to be collected by the laboratory at 2 p.m. on the day of despatch. This is very important if the laboratory results are to be of value.

(b) SHOPS ACT, 1934 AND FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

During the year, 41 inspections of food premises and 28 visits for the inspection of food for voluntary surrender were made.

Many shopkeepers have carried out improvements to their shops in order to cope with increased trade and in order to accommodate new display fittings, and self service arrangements. Improvements to the premises not within the public eye are more difficult to obtain but it is found that most traders are anxious to meet the various requirements when the full explanation has been given to them.

Education of the food handler is still of paramount importance but unfortunately, not nearly enough time is available for this purpose.

Food premises situated within the Godstone Rural District are listed in the following categories:

Grocers, Provision Merchants and General Stores	...	74
Bakers and Confectioners	... ..	12
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	... ..	16
Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	... ..	52
Fishmongers	... ..	8
Public Houses	... ..	50
Confectioners	... ..	31
Butchers	... ..	23
Hospitals, Private and Boarding Schools	... ..	38
Registered ice-cream premises	... ..	96
Premises used for food preparation	... ..	24

The attached is a table of foodstuffs inspected and the reasons for condemnation:-

Meat.

725 lbs. English Beef	-	bonetaint.
45 lbs. Imported beef	-	"
92 lbs. " "	-	tuberculosis.
11 lbs. " "	-	bruising.

(continued on next page)

Fish.

11 stones wet fish	-	decomposition.
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Tinned Goods.

8 lbs. 12 ozs. Luncheon meat	-	blown tins.
19 lbs Cooked ham	-	decomposition.
18 lbs. Corned beef	-	decomposition.
5½ lbs Stewed steak	-	blown tin
7 lbs. Whole chicken	-	perforated tins.
12 lbs. Ox tongues	-	perforated tins.
8 ozs. Salmon	-	blown tin.
6 lbs. Apples	-	decomposition.

Dried Goods.

74 lbs Sugar	}		-	damaged by flood water.
17 lbs. sultanas				
7 lbs. raisins.				
14 lbs. dried peas				
5 lbs. Haricot beans				
7 lbs. rice				
4 lbs. ground rice.				
24. lbs. flour.				
10 lbs. pies and pasties.	-		-	decomposition.
7 lbs. sausages	-		-	decomposition.
24 lbs. frozen peas	-		-	decomposition.

ICE CREAM

No samples of ice cream were taken during the year.

There are no manufacturing plants within the district. All the supplies are by noted manufacturers and sampling is done at the source of manufacture and very few samples are also taken by the larger authorities. It is therefore considered a wasteful duplication to make additional checks unless some exceptional circumstance should arise.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are 6 slaughterhouses licensed by the Council, all of which are in regular use. During the year, evening and weekend work has again been necessary in order to maintain one hundred percent inspection of the meat slaughtered, and this entailed during the year 1,358 visits. The slaughtering is almost without exception carried out during the early and late evening, and on occasions, Saturday afternoons or Sunday, and this is necessitated by the employment of part-time labour in the slaughterhouses.

Animals are also slaughtered for the wholesale market, which means that carcasses are removed early the following morning, and under the existing legislation, animals slaughtered after seven in the evening may be removed at seven in the next morning, irrespective of whether an inspection has been made. The practical outcome of this is that the inspection must be made the previous night if it is to be properly examined. The butchers on the whole co-operate very well.

In regard to the standards of hygiene maintained in the slaughterhouses, it is quite reasonable in most cases, and excellent in one particular instance. One small slaughterhouse in use is most unsuitable for the throughput to which it is subjected. New Legislation will however, enable a more positive attitude to be adopted in the control of these particular premises.

Mention must be made of the method of disposing of diseased meat or meat unfit for human consumption. In the case of diseased meat, it is heavily disinfected and either buried or incinerated, or in the case of a seriously diseased condition, removed by the Meat Inspector for disposal under supervision. In regard to meat which is condemned by reason of pathological change rather than disease, this is treated with a green vegetable dye and released for animal feeding or to the fat merchants.

There is one knackers yard licensed by the local authority, and the premises generally are reasonable. The number of animals being dealt with at these premises is still less than in previous years, and the reason is thought to be due to the considerable amount of weeding out of old cattle which has taken place in recent years in bringing the animal attested scheme into being.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE
OR IN PART DURING THE YEAR 1958.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	530	134	846	1,679	1,914
Number inspected	530	134	846	1,679	1,914
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u> Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	4	10	8
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	134	25	2	96	92
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	25.3	18.6	0.23	6.3	5.2
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	2	-	-	21
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.37	0.23	-	-	1.14
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	7	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by regrigeration	7	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Entire carcase and organs	1	-	-	-	1
Heads and tongues	-	1	-	-	21
Lungs	2	1	-	-	-

HEAT INSPECTION DENATIONS OTHER

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SECTION VII

THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Details of the work done by the Rodent Operator is set out in the Table attached. There were only 30 major infestations of rats and only 2 for mice. The total number of infestations treated during the year was 238 a decrease compared with last year.

The control of the rate population in the district still requires that continued vigilance is maintained, and this can only be achieved by constant supervision of those premises and sites providing a special attraction to rats and mice. These sites are refuse tips, slaughterhouses and food premises and not least, the back yard chicken run. In most cases, the scattering of food indiscriminately to the chicken also provides a very good feeding ground for the rat. It cannot be emphasised too strongly that all food, whether for human or animal consumption, should be properly protected and that no loose food of any kind should be left scattered around. The throwing of bread out into the garden for the birds is very much to be deprecated. A proper bird table would eliminate the danger.

In regard to sewers, and sewage disposal works, an annual testing is carried out and any necessary treatment follows. The sewers are now rarely found to be seriously infested but nevertheless, the routine testing laid down by the Ministry is a very necessary method of control.

School Canteens and Kitchens are all visited and given treatment for insect infestations, and at the same time, they are also inspected and if necessary tested for possible rat and mice infestation.

The kitchen at Smallfield Hospital is under constant supervision and receives regular visits from our Rodent Officer. Cockroach and steam fly infestations are occasionally troublesome, but with the carrying out of regular inspection and treatment, the amount of infestation is kept well under control.

In regard to Convalescent Homes run by the Surrey County Council, an annual fee is paid to enable routine visits to be made to all of their Convalescent Homes in the district, and this also covers the cost of any treatment which may be found to be necessary.

TABLE X
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949
REPORT FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1959

		TYPE OF PROPERTY				(5) Agri- cultural
		Non-Agricultural				
		(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc.Council Houses)	(3) All Other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols.(1), (2) and (3)	
I	Number of properties in Local Authority's Dis- trict (Notes 1 and 2)	13	10,027	1,060	11,100	484
II	Number of properties ins- pected as a result of:					
	(a) Notification	5	196	27	228	3
	(b) Survey under the Act	6	44	52	102	38
	(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	32	482	760	1,274	250
III	Total inspections carried out - including re-inspec- tions. (To be completed only if figures are readily available.)	-	-	-	-	-
IV	Number of properties inspe- cted (in Sec.II) which were found to be infested by:					
	(a) Rats (Major	6	16	5	27	3
	(Minor	5	160	13	178	4
	(b) Mice (Major	-	2	-	2	-
	(Minor	-	14	8	22	-
V	Number of infested pro- perties (in Sect.IV) treated by the L.A. (Figures should NOT exceed those given at Sect.IV)	11	192	28	231	7
VI	Total Treatments carried out - including re-treat- ments. (To be completed only if figures are readily available.)	-	-	-	-	-
VII	Number of notices served under Sect.4 of the Act:					
	(a) Treatment.	-	-	-	-	-
	(b) Structural Work (i.e.Proofing)	-	-	-	-	-
VIII	Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect.4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-
IX	Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
X	Number of "Block" con- trol schemes carried out	-	2	-	2	-

NOTE 1 - With the exception of agricultural properties, a property means one which is entered separately in the Valuation Roll for the area.

NOTE 2 - (i) Premises used by the L.A. for the purposes of trade should be entered in Col. (3).

(ii) Sewers should not be included.

(iii) Combined dwelling and business premises, where occupied by the same person, should be regarded as business premises and should be entered in Col.(3). Where the dwelling and business parts of the premises are in separate occupation, separate entries should be made in Cols.(2) & (3).

NOTE 3 - For the purpose of completing Sections II, IV and V, each property should be entered once only in respect of inspections, infestations or treatments.

